


Contact

SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

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FR. RUFUS ESSER, C.P.P.S.
"The Institution's Institution"



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Fr. Rufus Esser, C.P.P.S.

“The Institution’s Institution”

When you enter Fr. Esser’s room, you enter a personal archive containing the history of a man and a college for the past five decades. “Fr. Rufus” epitomizes what Saint Joseph’s was, is, and will continue to be. He came to the college in 1914 as a seminarian and returned in 1925 as a professor. For the past 50 years he has served the college not only as a professor but also as president, vice-president, dean of studies, prefect of discipline and librarian.

In December of 1974, Fr. Esser retired. That is a relative statement for anyone who knows him. Fr. Esser never stops moving. But we did stop him long enough to tape the following interview, one we are sure will show why everyone who has been a part of Saint Joseph’s remembers Fr. Esser. E.D.

CONTACT: Father, you have been a part of Saint Joseph’s since 1925. We hope to learn about those years in this interview, but can you give us some background about your early life?

ESSER: Well, I guess the place to begin is where I began. I was born June 13, 1898, in a farming community, Cole Camp, Mo. I was second of five children. My father was a house painter; my mother, a serious-minded woman, who kept reins on us little Essers.

CONTACT: What was life like in a small farming town in the early 20th century?

ESSER: Most activity revolved around family, church and school. We belonged to a small Bohemian parish of 25 families. We were kind of special though, the only German one. In those first years we had Mass only once a month. The priest would come on horseback from Sedalia, 20 miles away, on Saturday evening; would stay overnight at my grandfather’s home. Around ten Sunday morning he heard confessions; remember, the people drove in from their farms. Mass at 10:30; lunch after Mass—often out under the big maples; after lunch was catechism for the kiddies; at 2 p.m. vespers and benediction. Then all went back home, the priest riding his horse back to Sedalia. From the beginning, the priests were from the Society of the Precious Blood; that Society is deeply tied to the history of my childhood community.

“MY BROTHER, SISTER AND I HAVE MORE THAN 150 YEARS AS MEMBERS OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD COMMUNITY.”

CONTACT: What did you do on the Sundays when you had no Mass?

ESSER: My parents took care of that. Mother was a convert from Lutheranism and a very gently pious woman. She made sure that we had Mass prayers every Sunday mid-morning before we children could scatter to play in the woods. The family, seated around the table, listened to Dad reading from *The Goffini*, a book with the epistles, gospels, and prayers. We would end sometimes with the rosary.

CONTACT: Since your family was deeply religious, did you always plan to be a priest?

ESSER: As a child I never gave religious vocation serious attention. I first wanted to be a painter, like Dad. But then I found something more appealing; I’d be a storekeeper so that I could have all the candy I wanted. But Mother, taking her new religion seriously, took us to church and offered us to God according to His will as each of us was born. His will must have been for the Essers to serve Him in a special way; three of five children entered the Society of the Precious Blood.

CONTACT: Can you remember when you decided to be a priest?

ESSER: When my oldest brother, Gilbert, talked of becoming a priest, it was taken for granted that he would go to the Precious Blood seminary in Burkettsville, Ohio. He left home in 1911. There was a lot of crying in our home that evening for our departed first-born. It was particularly hard on Mother to think of his being “way out in Ohio.” A good many months later, as Mother and I, sitting alone, got into discussion about my future, all at once I started to cry, overwhelmed with the sudden idea of myself becoming a priest. That was the first time I had given it much consideration, and here it came all at once. Mother cautioned against snap judgment and advised me to talk to a priest. He encouraged me but also warned about a hasty decision. I was then 14, and I did stay in Cole Camp for my first year of high school. I took Latin just in case—really because they all did in our small new high school.

CONTACT: When did you leave home for the seminary?

ESSER: It was All Souls Day, Nov. 2, 1913. Besides the difficulty of leaving home, I especially recall saying goodbye to my best friend, Isidore Stadtherr. I told him after Mass on All Saints Day, and he was rather deeply hurt that I had not divulged my plans sooner. In those days, however, we didn’t talk very freely about such things. But Isidore and I were to be together later as he too entered our seminary and was ordained in

1927. I had gone to Burkettsville for a year and then to Saint Joseph’s in the fall of 1914.

CONTACT: What year were you ordained and what was your first assignment?

ESSER: Ordained in May of 1925, I substituted through the summer in a Nebraska City, Neb., parish. Then at the end of August, I received a letter from the Provincial telling me that they would “try me out once” at Saint Joseph’s. So I came here, to stay, in the fall of 1925; I came along with Father Kenkel, several years older than I. And that was the year Saint Joseph’s became temporarily a preparatory seminary for current reasons.

CONTACT: Can you guess how many students have spent a semester in your classes since 1925?

ESSER: I have no idea, but I believe that every priest now on the active teaching faculty was once a student of mine.

CONTACT: With the experience of 50 years of college teaching, could you compare your students of the 20’s and 30’s with those of today?

ESSER: Well, that’s a bit difficult. Remember, we were for several years a seminary. But I suppose the basic difference is that students then were more amenable to direction. They expected it. Perhaps they were more submissive from their childhood. They came to college and we told them how they should proceed. Today students are searchers. They have much more freedom, but I do not look upon the change as necessarily a loss. I do find much sincerity among today’s youngsters. They are more critically aware of many things around them—though not necessarily more deeply aware—than students of the past. But then, if we had had television in the 30’s, things might have been more like today.

CONTACT: You mention the different phases of the college history, and you were instrumental in many of those changes. Can you delineate how the college went from a prep seminary in 1925 to its present status as a Catholic, liberal arts, coeducational institution?

ESSER: Well, as I said earlier, Saint Joseph’s even included an Indian School before the turn of the century. When I arrived in 1925 it became for current reasons a prep seminary and the curriculum was directed toward preparation for the priesthood. In 1931 we opened up to lay students and with that enlarged the curriculum. Then World War II depleted our enrollment,

but we built our academy numbers and survived. Fortunately, all our professors and much of our help were priests and brothers contributing their services. I don’t know how we would have paid anybody. After the War came the G.I. wave; we had to adjust again. I think this change was more necessary and important than going coed in 1969. Until after the War we had still been basically a high school with boarding school discipline. All of a sudden we were populated with men who had spent four or five years in combat abroad. We dropped the high school in 1945. Since then the college profile has undergone easier modifications; even acceptance of coeds was rather gradual—in several steps.

CONTACT: One of the most recent events was the loss by fire of the Administration Building in February, 1973. There was a picture of you in CONTACT looking at the building as it still smoldered. What was then going through your mind?

ESSER: Well, mainly nostalgia. I was saddened to see it go, because it had been so much a part of everyone’s experience with Saint Joseph’s. But perhaps I did react a bit differently than most: I don’t view the loss as of one big building, but rather as of a series of individual rooms, each with its own history and specific memories.

CONTACT: You mentioned before that you do not have any idea how many students you have taught, but you must hear from some of them occasionally. What do your former students remember about you, Father Esser.

ESSER: Oh, I hear from quite a few. Most mention my sense of humor and ability to have a story for almost any situation. Others remember me as the one who taught them how to study systematically. But then there are times when I feel my infamous typewriter and its small type have been more remembered than have I. But, you know, I receive letters not only from alumni. Recently I got one from a woman who for ten years, along with her husband, had been in the janitorial service here. She is now retired, and her writing suggested a bit of homesickness for the college.

CONTACT: You said a very intriguing thing, “She was homesick for Saint Joseph’s.” She had been a cleaning lady here, but she felt the same way about the college as if she had graduated from it. Why do people have this nostalgia for the institution?

ESSER: Partly because we are a small school; we all know one another. Our interests are basically similar, and when we look back on our years at Saint Joseph’s we remember the pleasant times we had with friends. I could explain that the college has a personality that



appeals to people if you will let me tell an interesting story.

CONTACT: Your stories are always interesting, please continue.

ESSER: A few years ago I had a student in class who was listed on the roster as a Reverend. One day I asked him about this. He said he was an embryo minister; from a small town north of Rensselaer; wanted to become a minister but needed more education. He had tried a semester at a state university but did not like it, so decided to come here. I asked him if he liked Saint Joseph’s and he said that he did. Specifically, he said, because everyone was so friendly. He was rather amazed that professors would give him so much time—even profs he did not have in class. He also sensed what perhaps is the key to the college personality: its spirit of camaraderie. He said it was like being at home—a place where you live and saw seeds of later nostalgia. I’m not too sure that anyone really leaves Saint Joseph’s. It is always home for fond memories and that’s why so many people return.

CONTACT: Father, you mentioned earlier that your mother took all her children to church and offered them up to God according to His will, and that three of them later entered the religious life. You have been ordained 50 years, what about the other two Esser children?

ESSER: Well, my brother Gilbert was ordained in 1924. He is semi-retired now but helping in parish work in Fort Wayne, Ind. My sister Hilda took her first vows in 1921. She too is semi-retired, but still teaches CCD classes every Sunday in Dayton, Ohio. The three of us have over 150 years as members of the Precious Blood Society.

CONTACT: What do you look back on and remember most in your 50 years?

Most of all, most remembrances are of students. A priest professor may have extra chances to be helpful. As a father and big brother one may coax and prod, and may indeed never know how much he has helped someone until he may get assurance years later.

I recall a graduate of the 50’s who, coming back about 1967 for an accounting career day, called on me in my room. He was not sure I would remember him, but I did at once; though getting rusty on names I do remember faces. I now recalled with him his deep shock at his first freshman mid-semester grades, lowest he had ever gotten. He thought of quitting school. But urging him to stay I referred to another, earlier lad who years before had been in the same drifting boat but who by now was a successful man with a family and sailing smoothly. I made special point of the identity of their first name—let’s say Jim. Now analyzing this present Jim jam in light of his high school pre-

“MOST OF ALL, MY REMEMBRANCES ARE OF THE STUDENTS.”

paration, I advised a change in his major. He made it and henceforth got along nicely. Occasionally meeting him on campus I would show my abiding interest. Then after his graduation I had not heard from him until on this day he came up to visit me. He told me that he had gotten his masters degree at Indiana University, had married a girl he met there, and on his first try had passed the CPA exam. (He’s now a district manager of the Internal Revenue Service.)

Most professors can recount such experiences; they occur readily at Saint Joseph’s. Maybe that’s why people miss it sometimes. But we teachers should realize that our students do thank us even if not always explicitly. When this Jim the Second was leaving my room that day, he said: “Father, I thank you more than anyone else here for the fact that I’m a happy man, that I did not quit as I was then tempted to do. Believe it or not, I pray for you every day of my life.” Well, that was something to warm the heart. Let me add that I enjoy my occasional meetings here on campus with two of the earlier Jim’s offspring, now Saint Joe students. And the boy bears that same first name.

College Announces Major Changes



Gladu Going Home with Pride in Saint Joseph's

The following story is a condensation of a February 17 interview of Jerry Gladu by Rex Smith, Managing Editor of the RENSSELAER REPUBLICAN. — EDITOR

Jerry Gladu realizes that he's going home to Kankakee, Ill., soon, but he knows, too, that he'll be leaving a home in Rensselaer that will be hard to replace.

Gladu, vice-president for public relations at Saint Joseph's College, announced his resignation last week. In a few weeks, he'll become Director of Community Relations and Development at St. Mary's Hospital in Kankakee.

Gladu is returning to the hospital where he was born 40 years ago. And it's the town where seven generations of Gladus have made their home. But the decision to return home still wasn't an easy one for this Gladu.

"I feel very close to Rensselaer and Saint Joseph's. Since coming to Rensselaer twelve years ago, I've become greatly involved in the community, and I've come to know and like so many people here."

He added, "I feel very close to Rensselaer, and I want people here to know that I'll always consider this one of my homes."

At the same time, the Saint Joseph's executive emphasized that he won't be entirely leaving the college, which is his alma mater.

He'll join the Alumni Association Executive Board and will continue to be active in college affairs to the extent possible.

Gladu said that since he graduated from SJC in 1955, the school has taken on a national character through its academic programs and fund-raising efforts.

His role in that progress, Gladu said, was "merely that of a catalyst, able to show the effect of this college and what it can do."

But his work has drawn national attention in the public relations and fund-raising profession, including articles in national publications about SJC's approach to development.

Drawing the most local attention was 1973's Good Neighbor Fund drive. It began with a group of Rensselaer citizens in response to the fire which destroyed the SJC Administration Building in 1973, and ballooned into a community festival and an effort that strengthened the ties between the college and Rensselaer.

"It was a great and exhilarating experience for me," Gladu said. "It made me realize how fortunate a community like Rensselaer is to have the kind of people who are here."

He continued, "A town this size seldom has such fine people in such great numbers. I like to think that Saint Joseph's and Rensselaer have taken on a larger character together," he added.

In the Kankakee area Gladu will join many family friends and also will become involved in development of family land. His new position in the hospital has just been created, and it affords him, Gladu noted, an opportunity to make virtually whatever he wishes of the position.

St. Mary's Hospital is one year away from completion of a \$14 million expansion program, which will make it a 500-bed facility serving a metropolitan area of about 70,000.

Jerry admits to sadness at leaving the college campus. "More than anything," he said, "I'm going to miss the students of Saint Joseph's. Their enthusiasm, optimistic outlook, ambition and energy have provided sustenance to me constantly."

Gladu added, "You know, you take a little pride in knowing that you've had a small part in that."

Crowley to Replace Wellman as Treasurer

Thomas F. Crowley, assistant professor of accounting and comptroller of the budget, replaces Fr. Paul E. Wellman with the title of acting treasurer.

Crowley, a 30-year old native of Oak Park, Illinois, graduated from Saint Joseph's in 1966 with a bachelor of science degree in accounting. He earned a master's degree in accounting from the University of Illinois in January, 1968, then spent the next eight months working as an auditor in the Chicago office of Arthur Andersen and Company.

He joined Saint Joseph's faculty as an assistant professor of accounting in 1968 and was appointed budget comptroller in April, 1974. Since then, he has become thoroughly familiarized with all college operations. As a certified public accountant, he has done private tax work in Rensselaer.

Fr. Wellman, a 48-year old native of Bryant, Indiana, joined Saint Joseph's staff in 1957 and has served as an assistant professor of business administration, purchasing agent, superintendent of buildings and grounds, business manager, comptroller of the budget and vice-president for business affairs. He earned a master's degree in business administration from Marquette University (Milwaukee, Wis.) in 1962.



Wellman



Crowley

"I simply felt it was time to step aside and let someone else direct the business affairs of the college," explained Fr. Wellman. "I've been involved in this aspect of college affairs for most of the 18 years, and we have made remarkable progress in meeting the physical plant and financial challenges we must face."

"I leave this position not only with deep satisfaction that Saint Joseph's has surmounted these financially-troubling times, but with firm confidence that the future is still brighter because recent challenges have more closely knit the college family to conserve resources, budget wisely and plan with prudence for years ahead. We are fortunate we can entrust our business affairs to someone with the enthusiasm and expertise of Tom Crowley," Fr. Wellman said.

Crowley added, "This college has learned a great deal in meeting the recent problems created by inflation, and I am confident we can employ these lessons in planning a still better college for the future."

"In each of these changes, Saint Joseph's loses a qualified administrator, but the appointed successors are eminently qualified to assume these responsibilities in a smooth transition that will not detract in the least from the operations of these departments," Fr. Banet explained.

"Continuity of operations is a must and in each case the departing administrator has assisted in training his successor and the new administrator is well qualified by virtue of his previous experience."



Alumnus Elected Member of Parliament 1957 Saint Joseph's graduate, Gilbert "Gibby" Parent (left) is pictured above as he is sworn in by the Clerk of the House of Commons of the Canadian Parliament. Mr. Gilbert, M.P. serves as the Liberal Party's representative for the federal riding of St. Catherine, Ont.



Trustee McHale dies at 83

Saint Joseph's College trustee Frank M. McHale, a giant in Indiana politics, died January 26 at age 83.

Mr. McHale, who lived in Indianapolis, had served on the college's Board of Trustees for 25 years. A lawyer, banker and railroad executive, Mr. McHale served as Democratic National committeeman from Indiana from 1937 until 1952, and was delegate to every Democratic National Convention from 1928 until 1972.

Although he never held public office, Mr. McHale was credited with influencing the nomination and election of hundreds of candidates for local, state and national offices.

Mr. McHale had said that he became interested in politics while fighting the Ku Klux Klan and decided to help remove any bigot from public office regardless of party affiliation.

In 1961 on the occasion of his 70th birthday, Mr. McHale's friends established a scholarship fund at Saint Joseph's for "worthy young people." Mr. McHale received an honorary doctorate from Saint Joseph's in 1959.

An Open Letter to the Saint Joseph's College Family

Rex Smith who does the interview on this page is a recent college graduate of considerable talent and personality. He had his pick of jobs upon leaving college but chose to stay in Rensselaer and run the newspaper.

One of his reasons for this decision occurred during his first visit to Rensselaer in the summer of 1973. At that time the Good Neighbor Fund drive for Saint Joseph's was drawing to a close with the Good Neighbor Festival days. Rex saw a community show that it cared, and was concerned. He was impressed.

Over the years I've shared Rex's emotions, not only for our friends in Rensselaer but for all of you who feel and express that Saint Joseph's "spirit."

What a gratifying experience it has been for me to see the growth of concern, interest and involvement by the entire Saint Joseph's family.

The incredible amounts of time, talent and yes, money given by alumni, parents and friends of Saint Joseph's College give testament to your true concern for the College. It's been a privilege for me to have been a part of this involvement. And, I'll continue to do whatever I can for our "alma mater."

To close I'd like to use the words of a gentleman who had to copy my hair style to become a television star. As Kojak would say "Who loves you?" — I do!

Thanks for all.

JERRY GLADU '55

New Book Lauds Halleck for Civil Rights Law

Saint Joseph's College trustee Charles A. Halleck retired from Congress in 1969 after 34 years of service in the House of Representatives. Since then Mr. Halleck has devoted his efforts to the successful development programs of Saint Joseph's. Most people who serve in politics have to wait for history to decide their importance. Recently though, Mr. Halleck's unique place in American Politics has been well documented in a book by Larry O'Brien entitled *NO FINAL VICTORIES*. The excerpt printed below shows how Congressman Halleck proved to be the man most influential in the passage of the civil rights legislation during the Kennedy administration.

From *NO FINAL VICTORIES*, copyright 1974 by Lawrence F. O'Brien. Used by permission of Doubleday & Co. Inc.

Bipartisan support for this bill was imperative—we were sure to lose many southern Democrats, so the bill could not pass unless we gained Republicans who had not traditionally supported civil rights legislation. At the outset, we thought that the Senate minority leader, Ev Dirksen, might be the key figure in the bill's passage but as it turned out, a truly central figure was Dirksen's counterpart on the House side, minority leader Charlie Halleck, the other half of the celebrated "Ev and Charlie Show," as Dirksen and Halleck's weekly news conference was called by reporters.

I finally concluded that we were not going to get our bill out of Judiciary unless the President himself intervened—and intervened successfully. And the person for him to intervene with, I thought, was not committee chairman Celler, or Republican spokesman McCulloch—they had been wonderful, but they simply hadn't been able to swing the votes—but with Charlie Halleck, the minority leader.

It was a measure of our desperation that I urged Kennedy to deal directly with Halleck. The crusty Republican leader fought us daily on the House floor. He was a master of parliamentary procedure and tactical maneuvering, and he was a staunch conservative. Yet he was also a professional, and a man I had always been able to deal with in a cordial manner. Sometimes, before a major House vote, he would invite me to his hideaway office for a martini and a bit of banter, which would usually go something like this:

"Well, I think we're going to beat your pants off tomorrow, O'Toole." He, for some reason always called me O'Toole, much as Ev Dirksen always called me Lawrence.

"No, Charlie, I think you'll find we've got the votes."

"Oh, do you? Well, what's your head count?"

"Well, let's just say I'm confident."

We both had our head counts, down to the last vote, but neither of us was about to reveal this prediction to the other. So we would joke and the next day we'd see who was right.

My relations with Halleck, although cordial, had not been extensive, and Kennedy's had been very limited. But he seemed our last hope of rallying the needed Republican votes in the Judiciary Committee, so Kennedy invited him to his office for a talk. And during that talk, Kennedy discovered something that surprised us, although perhaps it shouldn't have—Halleck was a conservative, he had fought us on countless issues, but he favored civil rights. Indeed, he seemed flattered to be called upon to help.

"Mr. President," he said, "I'd be pleased to talk to some of my fellows and see what I can do. Give me until tomorrow noon, then I'll call you and tell you what I've been able to do."

The next day, I went to Kennedy's office to await the noon call from Halleck that, it seemed, would decide the fate of the civil rights bill. Noon came and went with no call from him. As the minutes ticked by, Kennedy and I gazed at each other in despair. The thought crossed our minds that we had been had, that the crafty Republican leader had only been pulling our legs with his promise of cooperation. Finally, at around 12:45, Kennedy could stand the suspense no longer.

"I'm going to call him," he told me.

It was a measure of his anxiety about the civil rights bill that he was willing to call a Republican leader who failed to make a promised call to the President and who, for all we knew, was sitting in his office with a few cronies having the laugh of his life.

But, once again the President's instinct was good. For when he got Halleck on the line, the minority leader said:

"Mr. President, I'm terribly sorry, I had a hard time catching a couple of my fellows and I just talked to the last one. But I was just about to call you with good news—I've got you the votes to get your bill out of the committee."

Kennedy was overjoyed. With the help of Halleck, and McCulloch as well, he had achieved



The Honorable Charles A. Halleck

ed a major breakthrough. Halleck took some heat from right-wing Republicans, who placed a furling umbrella on his desk to suggest that he had capitulated to the enemy, but he kept his promise and the administration bill was reported out of the Judiciary Committee in late October.

The bipartisan support of the civil rights bill in Judiciary set the stage for bipartisan passage of the bill, by a wide margin, by the full House. This, in turn, paved the way for bipartisan passage of the bill in the Senate the next summer. Lyndon Johnson was President then, of course, and along with him, Senate minority leader Ev Dirksen rightly received a great deal of credit for making possible the passage of the civil rights bill. With all due credit to Dirksen, I think that the House action had made Senate approval almost inevitable, and that the unsung hero in this affair has been the other half of the Ev and Charlie team, Charlie Halleck.

Ragan Report Cites Contact Interview

Reprinted from the Ragan Report

When Saint Joseph's College in Rensselaer, Indiana, recently decided on a \$125 mid-year increase in room and board fees for its students, confused media reporting led many to think the situation was worse than it was. The college allayed the fears of its supporters by printing a page-one interview with financial controller Tom Crowley in *Contact*, the alumni newspaper. Title of the piece: "Inflation and the College Budget — How Saint Joseph's Fights the Money Crunch." Crowley explained in very specific terms the causes for the college's deficit (fewer students, inflation) and what the school needed to do "to pay our teachers, feed our students and keep the lights on in the library." He insisted that cost-cutting, a predicted increase in enrollment and "faith in the institution" would enable Saint Joseph's to balance its budget.



Leaders of both parties recently joined in honoring Mr. Halleck during unveiling ceremonies of the former Indiana Congressman's portrait on Capitol Hill. Pictured above are (left to right) Hon. John J. Rhodes (R), Ariz., Minority Leader, U.S. House of Representatives; Hon. Charles A. Halleck (R), Ind., Majority Leader, U.S. House of Representatives, 80th and 83rd Congresses (1947-1948; 1953-1954), and Minority Leader 86th through 88th Congresses (1959-1964); Hon. Carl Albert (D), Okla., Speaker of the House of Representatives; Hon. William G. Bray (R), Ind., and Chairman of the Charles A. Halleck Portrait Committee.

SJC Grad Pregelj, 53, Foreman of Historic Jury

The story below features the experiences and insider's view of SJC grad Vladimir Pregelj '53, foreman of the Watergate grand jury. Pregelj, an economist at the Library of Congress, was in Lansing, Illinois, recently visiting relatives and gave the following interview to the HAMMOND TIMES. It is reprinted here with their permission.

The foreman of the Watergate grand jury says the biggest impact of the case was loss of absolute faith in the country's leadership by the people.

"I think the real significance is that 'we the people' will be much less ready to assume without question the propriety of the leaders of the country," Vladimir Pregelj said.

"We have learned even persons in high places can be corrupt, including those in the White House," he added.

Pregelj, who headed the 21-month grand jury investigation, offered some personal comments on the affair.

An economist at the Library of Congress, Pregelj was selected for the historic jury almost by accident.

He was called to serve on the Washington jury in April, but was excused because of the press of business.

He was called again in June and accepted, figuring the jury would meet no more than two months.

Although he feels the pardon of former President Richard Nixon was wrong, Pregelj said he feels Watergate proved the judicial system is sound.

"If the system works in this case, then it will work anywhere, no matter how imperfect it is," he said.

Pregelj said the pardon left a serious constitutional question about the relation of the executive branch to the judicial.

"The pardon shorted a judicial inquiry into whether a sitting president could be indicted and impeached or had to be impeached before being indicted," Pregelj said.

Pregelj said when the grand jury first got the Watergate breakin, it was nothing more than another felony case.

History will probably place its own emphasis on Watergate, Pregelj said, but, "I see it as a case where someone got their hand caught in the till."

"The case took on importance because it reached to the highest officials in the land."

Support for the grand jury was almost unanimous, Pregelj said.

"I would say 95 percent of the mail I received was in favor of what we were doing," he said. "I received only one unsigned letter out of thousands."



Pregelj



Alumni Class Notes

1916

Lawrence C. Jacobs is serving as an agent for New York Life Insurance Company for which he has worked for the past 46 years. He has four children, 16 grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

1934

Msgr. Alfred F. Horrigan has been named the Executive Director of the newly-organized Commission on Peace and Justice of the Archdiocese of Louisville.

1938

Richard F. Scharf celebrated his 35th anniversary as a member of the Saint Joseph's College faculty on Feb. 1, 1975.

1944

Paul E. Brunton has been named vice-president, group operations, of Litton Industries Business Machines and Retail Information Systems group.

1947

Dr. Walter W. Donahue has been appointed medical director of GTE Service Corporation, a subsidiary of General Telephone and Electronics Corp.

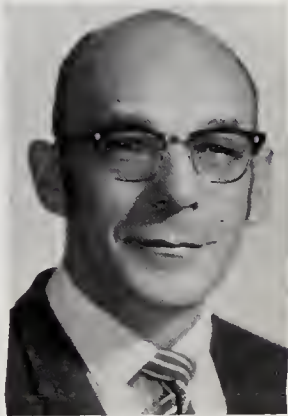
Frederick A. Beckman has been named chairman-elect of the 200-member House of Delegates of the Indiana State Bar Association.

1951

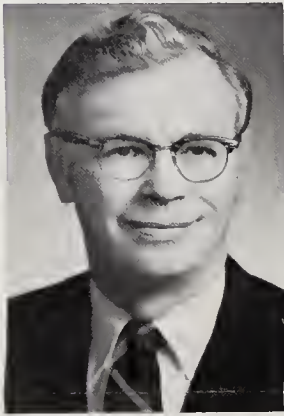
Hubert Miller served as commentator at the Latin American Studies Association Convention in San Francisco in November.



Scharf, '38



Donahue, '47



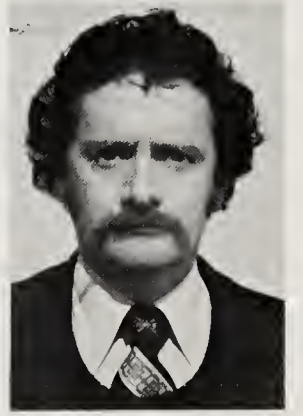
Beckman, '47



Fenker, '57



O'Neill, '62



Keenan, '63

1953

J. Cotter Tharin has been promoted to professor of geology at Hope College in Holland, Mich. He is currently writing a book on environmental geology.

1955

Ralph Seidel is currently serving as a religious education coordinator in Manteno, Ill.

1956

Charles J. Werling has been admitted to the Illinois Bar Association and the Federal Bar Association. During the past year he has also been appointed as a member of the Executive Committee of the Chicago Archdiocesan Association of Local School Boards.

1957

Ronald E. Keller has been promoted to regional director of group sales for Bankers Life in Des Moines, Iowa.

Daniel E. Fenker has been named associate agency head of Lincoln/Cascades, Inc., a corporate sales office in Portland, Ore., for the Lincoln National Life Insurance Co.

Sr. Mary Louise Hoelscher was recently elected First Councilor for the Western Region of the Sisters of the Precious Blood. She is presently employed at the Window Rock High School in Window Rock, Ariz., and also works in adult education for the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Thomas Weber has been named assistant principal of Ottawa-Glendorf High School in Ottawa, Ohio.

1959

Paul Jurik is a consulting geologist in New Orleans, La.

Bob Gontko is working for Superior Oil Co. in Houston, Tex.

Ed Graczyk is working for Amenada HESI in Lafayette, La. All three former Pumas are striving to help keep present Pumas warm this winter.

1960

James C. Hagearty II was recently promoted to marketing development manager of International Paper Company.

Richard J. Meister is the chairman of the history department at the University of Michigan at Flint. He has recently written a book, *Race and Ethnicity in Modern America*.

Gilbert J. Hawkins has been promoted to the Vector Control Section of the California State Department of Health.

1961

James E. Sullivan has been named the national catalog sales manager for the office and photo equipment department of Montgomery Ward.

1962

Joe Richard is currently serving as a city councilman for the city of Mishawaka, Ind. He is also a member of the board of directors for the Independent Insurance Agents of Indiana.

Patrick J. O'Neill has been appointed district Manager in the casualty-property commercial lines department at the Columbus Ohio office of the Travelers Insurance Co.

1963

Thomas M. Naylor has been promoted to personnel manager for All-Steel Inc., in Hazelton, Pa.

William E. Keenan has been selected a Master Salesman for 1974 by the Monsanto Company. The Master Salesman award is Monsanto's highest form of recognition for top performers in its worldwide sales organization.

James A. Delaney has recently been registered as a professional engineer with the State of Indiana.

Lawrence A. Gordon received his M.S. degree in business education from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville in August, 1974.

1965

William M. Walsh has been elected to the position of trust officer in the department of the First National Bank of Chicago.

1966

Mike Lebrato is currently employed by the Religious Education Department of the Manistee Catholic Central Schools in Manistee, Mich.



Daniel J. Tighe is the principal of St. Mary's school in Wayne Mich.

Steven T. Strawbridge has joined the home office staff of Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Co., as a market services assistant.

1967

Joseph A. Hemminger is an aerospace engineer for the NASA Lewis Research Center in Cleveland, Ohio.

John A. Monroe is the treasurer of Tushman Steel Co.

1968

Rosemarie Clark has assumed the position of promotion manager for the Journal and Courier in Lafayette, Ind.

Sr. Marietta Kill has been named a member of the Toledo Diocesan Liturgy Commission and the Diocesan Music Committee.

Mike Delaney is a sociology instructor at Des Moines Area Community College in Des Moines, Iowa.

1969

Stephen Finn is currently employed as a special assistant to the provost at Ohio State University. He received his M.B.A. from Fordham University in August, 1974.

Lou Offer is the head football coach at the University of Detroit High School.

Thomas R. Beaupre is a senior staff accountant for Bennett Industries and is currently serving as president of the Park Forest South Jaycees in Park Forest South, Ill.

1970

Cy Foppe is currently working on his M.B.A. degree from New York Institute of Technology at Nova University in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Daniel DeVoe is an assistant football coach at St. John's University and head basketball coach at Franklin High School in New York City.

1st Lt. T. Kevin Griffin USMC met **1st Lt. A.S. Tony Ganz USMC** (class of '71) at Subic Bay, the Republic of the Philippines over the Thanksgiving holidays. Kevin is the Intelligence Officer of Provisional Marine Aircraft Group 10. Tony is the executive officer of Company "C" 1st Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment.

1971

Marcella A. Hasser is teaching junior high algebra, biology and general science for the Franklin County School Corp., in Brookville, Ind.

Thomas Gonwa is a medical student at the University of Illinois at Chicago and will receive his M.D. degree in June, 1975.

John Heizelman is a teacher and coach at St. Francis Indian School in South Dakota.

1972

Gary M. Luiz was elected vice-president of the student body of St. Patrick Seminary in Menlo Park, Calif.

Stephen Muscarella is a sales service assistant in the fragrance division of International Flowers and Fragrance in New York City.

Terry W. Dietz is currently teaching social studies at Jefferson High School in Lafayette, Ind.

James Patrick Kenney will be graduating from Case Western Law School in Cleveland, Ohio, in June, 1975.

Jerry Siemer has been promoted to office manager of Keebler, Co., of Atlanta.

Denise S. Garbon graduated from the University of South Carolina in May, 1974, with a degree in nursing and is now an ensign in the USNC at the Naval Regional Medical Center in Long Beach, Calif.

Matthew J. Keller is employed as an office manager for Riverside Corporation in Pompano Beach, Fla.

1973

Robert A. Mulderrig is currently working for the First National City Corporation in New York City and is attending Pau University.

1974

Robert Rizzuto is working for the International Accounts Department of the U.S. Postal Service.

Jerry Dean Demerly has recently received a position with General Electric in their Financial Management Program, located in Rockville, Md.

Karen Kim Johnston is currently employed at Jack Feldman Travel Service in Chicago.

MARRIAGES

Stephen Muscarella, '72, and **Donna Pearson**, July 6, 1974.

Leon Monnin, '69, and **Diane Eisert**, Oct. 12, 1974.

Robert Rizzuto, '74, and **Mary Jane Wathen, '76**, Jan. 12, 1975.

Joseph A. Hemminger, '67, and **Annette Marie Sheppard**, Nov. 2, 1974.

Thomas Gonwa, '71, and **Mary Alice Westrick**, Sept. 28, 1974.

John R. Soltis, '69 and **Sharon Single** on May 31, 1974.

BIRTHS

To Mr. and Mrs. **Dennis Biggerstaff, '61**, a daughter, **Blythe Marie**, born Nov. 30, 1974.

To Mr. and Mrs. **Gary Stewart, '73**, a daughter, **Courtney Marie**, born Nov. 15, 1974.

To Mr. and Mrs. **Lawrence Pfeifer, '70**, a daughter, **Laura**, born in April, 1974.

To Mr. and Mrs. **Dan Bryan, '71**, a son, **Daniel Edward**, born Oct. 18, 1974.

To Mr. and Mrs. **Douglas Fields, '73**, a son, **Jeffery Blake**, born Oct. 4, 1974.

To Mr. and Mrs. **John Parthum, '67**, a son **Brian John**, born Nov. 12, 1974.

To Mr. and Mrs. **William G. Grannan, '59**, a son, **John Leonard**, born Jan. 19, 1975.

To Mr. and Mrs. **Vincent (Skip) Braband, '69**, a daughter, **Heather Marie**, born Nov. 1, 1974.

To Mr. and Mrs. **Charles P. Bowling, '64**, a daughter, **Sharon Patricia**, born Nov. 19, 1974.

DEATHS

John Babione, '63, of Fremont, Ohio, Dec. 14, 1974.

L. James Gartland, '65, of Traverse City, Mich., Oct. 8, 1974.

Earl Sirois, '11, of Shelby, Ind., Nov. 4, 1974.

Gerard I. Uhrich, M.D., '26, of LaCrosse, Wis., on Jan. 23, 1975.

Brother John ("Hans") Kreuzhermes died on Jan. 19, 1975. Bro. Hans had worked for the college as a farm and poultry worker since 1940.

Pumas, 20-4, Clinch 1st ICC Crown

Basketball games are played by the clock. The big timepiece which dominates every arena determines the beginning and ending of hopes and thrills. Time has been instrumental in making '74-'75 the most fantastic basketball season



in the College's history. For the first time in 70 years of basketball competition, the Pumas are the undisputed champions of their conference. Although they have tied for the conference title twice, the cagers have never won an out-



"Everyone Will Remember Jimmy"

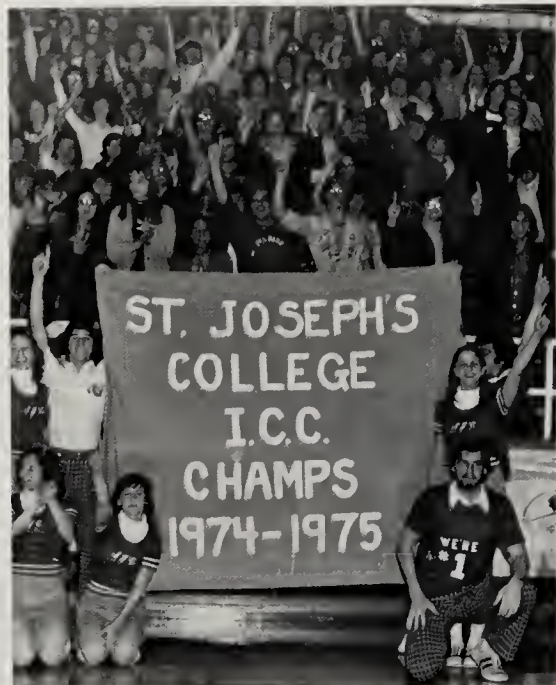
"... and starting at center, 6'-6", from Santurce, Puerto Rico, Jim Thordsen."

With that, Alumni Fieldhouse would erupt with frenzied anticipation and appreciation. It has been four years and Jim Thordsen played his last game on the Puma's home court February 22, 1975. He left the fieldhouse that evening as the most outstanding cager in the 70 year history of Saint Joseph's.



Pumas Accept NCAA Tournament Bid ICC CHAMPS AIM FOR GREAT LAKES TITLE

right title until February 22, 1975 when they defeated Wabash 98-65. With the victory, the Pumas became the first team since 1910 to win all their home games. Coach Weinert, who took the Pumas to the quarter finals of the NCAA Division II tournament last year, will again



lead his team into the post-season tourney. The time has come for Saint Joseph's College basketball Pumas and they and their fans are enjoying every second of it.

Jim Thordsen broke 24 individual single-game, single-season and career basketball records.

Heading the list are:

Saint Joseph's all-time scorer with more than 2,000 points.

Most Valuable Player in the Indiana Collegiate Conference for the past two years and will be the first player in conference history to win it three times.

First player to score 1,000 points in an Indiana Collegiate Conference career.

Most Valuable Player in every tournament Saint Joseph's has played.

The list could continue and include his participation in the Olympic and World Games, but basketball accomplishments are only a part of Jim Thordsen.

Everyone will remember Jimmy leaping above those defenders to swish his one-handed jumper. Everyone will remember Jimmy sweeping the boards for a crucial rebound. Everyone will smile when they tell how he sent an opponent's would-be shot into the seats with a swift block.

But for those who were there that night, the night Jimmy said goodbye to his fans and friends, with his mother at his side, he will be remembered for something else.

Jimmy will be remembered as more than a basketball player, for that night it was announced that a faculty committee had created the "Jim Thordsen Academic Scholarship" which will be awarded to a needy Puerto Rican student.

Once the season ends, once the records are established, the fantastic feats of Jim Thordsen will become legend.

Jim will be remembered by those who saw him play, by his friends who knew him as a gentle, humble person and by future students who will receive a college education, because Jim Thordsen was more than a basketball player. ED



Hall of Fame Honorees and families: Inducted into the SJC Hall of Fame in mid-January were (left) Henry "Heiny" Kauffman '47, center, with college President Fr. Charles Banet. From left are Mr. Kauffman's children: Danny, Timmy and Mrs. Patricia Kauffman. Ken Bates '58 (right) with his family Mrs. Camille Bates and children Kathryn, Christopher, Julie and Sheri.



SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

Contact

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SAINT JOSEPH'S

ACADEMY

REUNION

MAY 30, 31, JUNE 1

Holy Year Tour of the famous Shrines of Europe

sponsored by
SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

for its

Alumni, Parents, Students & Friends

TOUR—

22 days in Portugal, Spain, France, Monaco and Italy. A true Holy Year Pilgrimage Tour to Fatima, Lourdes, Rome and a host of other Shrines, historic Cathedrals and other interesting and scenic destinations in Europe.

HOSTS—



FR. WHITE

FR. REALE

Father Sante Reale, C.P.P.S., Alumni Director of Saint Joseph's College, Father Paul White, C.P.P.S., Moderator of Saint Joseph's Parents Association. It is hoped that Father Daniel Schaefer, C.P.P.S., former Dean of Men at Saint Joseph's and presently Moderator General of the Society of the Precious Blood with headquarters in Rome, will be present in the city and will give some former friends a guided tour of the Eternal City. An audience with the Holy Father will be arranged by the Fathers of the Precious Blood.

N. B.—

Items **not included** in the costs mentioned above are service of a professional tour conductor; airport taxes wherever levied;

meals not noted above; meals en route; excess or forwarding of baggage; items of a personal nature such as laundry; after lunch and dinner coffee or tea; beverages, telephone calls, etc.

IMPORTANT—

All rates are based on the present value of foreign currencies in relation to the U.S. dollar and on tariffs now effective and are subject to adjustment on final payment.

DEPOSIT—

Deposit of \$200.00 is due by March 22, 1975. Final payment is due April 5, 1975.

STUDENT INFORMATION—

You are permitted to make this tour and receive credit as Independent Study. In the fall semester following the tour, you will register for independent study in a particular department and do a research paper on some facet of the tour under the guidance of a particular professor with whom you have made arrangements prior to the tour.

ARRANGEMENTS—

Trade Winds International
442 North Calumet Road
Chesterton, Indiana 46304
(With office in Rensselaer, Indiana 47978)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION—

CONTACT:

Father Sante Reale, C.P.P.S. or Father Paul White, C.P.P.S., Saint Joseph's College Rensselaer, Indiana 47978 — Telephone 866-7111 (Area Code 219) Call person-to-person

DATES—

MAY 6 - 26, 1975

COSTS—

Land Costs and Air Fare from
New York\$1,075.00

Air Fare from Chicago to
New YorkApproximately \$100.00

Land Costs Include

Twin-bedded rooms at all hotels with private bath

Meals are continental breakfast and tabled hotel luncheons or dinners while at hotels, except in Madrid and Rome where breakfast only will be provided.

Transportation will be by deluxe private motorcoach.

Taxes and tips: Service charges imposed by hotel and taxes by local administrations and governmental authorities on all services rendered will be included. Also included are tips and fees to baggage porters for one suitcase per person.

Transfers between airports, hotels, etc., are included throughout.

Sightseeing by private motorcoach, including services of guides and entrance fees to places of interest visited. (Venice sightseeing will be on foot.)

Flight Bag.